STATIC FROM HQ

As we sit here on a hot Sunday afternoon, we're short on one column--IDXD has not arrived. Since we haven't heard from Chuck, we'll assume it's in the mail to us. If you see it inside, we got it. Otherwise..... The support for the columns is almost non-existent. In fact, we'll have to make a schedule adjustment for August based on lack of support. In a survey we asked about frequency of issues and there were many comments, particularly from younger members, that DX News did not come often enough in Summer. We added two summer issues but we can't justify the expense. So.....

SCHEDULE CHANGE - EDITORS NOTE

DX News will come to you on July 14, August 11, September 8 & 22. There will be **no August 25 issue**.

It was a real pleasure to receive a call from Mr. Dale Cook, CE at the new WPOE-1520, in Greenfield, MA. Mr. Cook informed us that WPOE is aiming for going on regular schedule the first week of July, hopefully before July 4. They will be on the air every Monday morning from 0000-0300 ELT from now until Christmas. Dale says he'll be sending veries soon to all who have reported recently.

Corrections to my typoing last time, etc. The AM Stereo clip used last time was from Phil Sullivan. The correct line-up for the picture we used from the YAD GTG was: (1 to r) Bob Popa, Darlene Glick, Pat Hartlage's arm, Paul Mount (hat shows only), John Buehler, Chuck Rader, Dick Truax, Jim Wallace (hidden), and Bill Whitacre. Also, LA may be the city of the Angles, too (hi!). /End of Pat's typoing/

Down to business on a rather serious note.... As announced in the last issue of DX news, Pat has reluctantly resigned his position as Secretary effective October 1, 1980. This effectively reduces the active "hard core" LPC to just two active members- Gary Atkins and Dick Truax. This is down from the original "core" of five or six members in LPC at its inception in 1977. Accordingly some announcements and/or adjustments are in order. Effective with this issue Gary Atkins will become/assume the position of 'acting editor' as we have had no active editor since October 1979. Corporate records with the State of Kentucky have been amended accordingly. I will continue as Treasurer here in Louisville. This leaves the position of Secretary vacant for the time being.

It is our consensus that for the time being we will endeavor to carry-on as usual under this new arrangement. At present,during the off season, the level of correspondence is at a minimum and in all likelihood the two of us will be able to keep up with routine inquiries, complaints, etc. However with the new season upon us we foresee the need for a Secretary, possibly even a 'remote' Secretary to handle the increased correspondence. On a more longrange basis, with Gary's employment terminating locally in the next 12 months and my personal situation even more uncertain, it becomes necessary to begin serious planning for the future of our Club in terms of a new publishing committee in the not-too-distant future. More precisely within the next 12 months an orderly transition to a new publishing group must take place if we are to avoid the "crisis" takeovers in years past. Paraphrasing a famous quote--"Now is the time for all qualified members to consider coming to the aid of their Club," the biggest, oldest and best DX organization of its kind. As we consider the alternatives here, we also welcome input from all members in good standing as to our future.

More will be announced in future issues, but in fairness to the membership we thought all should be appraised of our current status here at LPC.

LOOK INSIDE AND NEW MEMBERS are found on the back page............

THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND LARGEST ALL MEDIUM-WAVE DX CLUB
DOMESTIC DX DIGEST

DAVE SCHMIDT
42 CHELLOWNE ROAD
CASTLE HILLS
NEW CASTLE, DE 19720

Looks like a real work out for the typewriter this time! Please, when
your sending in your items, keep them on one side of the paper, type or
neatly write, ETC. And it would be a very big help if you could send your
reports in the form that the column is run, separated. These little
things are a very big help in putting this column together. Thanx!

FREQ. CHECKS:
1st Mon.....WNYX-1240 w/1000 hertz TT, ID's. (WPT-DC)
2nd Tue....NSWJ-1240 w/TT (no ID's noted either!). (DS-DE)
4th Mon.....KWMQ-1530, per v/l, 0130-0200. (RM-CT)

SPECIAL:
990 WNYX NY ROCHESTER - Per 1/2, power is given as 1000 watts day,
120 watts night, non-directional. Address listed as
360 East Ave., 14604. (DS-DE)
1090 WQCB TN KINGSPORT - Format: REL. "The Inspirational Sound of
the 80's." (HST-TN)
1520 WPOR MA GREENFIELD - having problems with directional antenna
system due to a concrete mixing plant near their antennas,
several watts during critical hours until pattern can be set. (RM-CT)
1530 WMST PA SHENANDOAH - Per 1/2, now operating w/2500 watts. (RM-CT)

WPOE AM 1520
POET'S SEAT BOARDCASTING, INCORPORATED
154 FEDERAL STREET GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01301 (413) 774-6800

MIDNIGHT - MIDNIGHT

620 WTMJ WI MILWAUKEE - 5/13 1615 traffic report, pop mx, wx. (DS-WI)
630 KDWB MN ST. PAUL - 5/14 1730 pop mx, wx, good signal. (DS-WI)
1120 WWDC WI WASHINGTON - 6/15 0203 noted w/5000 w/7500 w, ID then mx, good. (WPT-DC)
1150 WQXO WI DETROIT - 6/13 2100 pop mx, ID then mx, good. (WPT-DC)
1140 WBKH PA NORTH CASTLE - 6/15 2044 tentative, s/off w/mention of
5000 watts, no SSB, ID not heard due to WQYA. (WPT-DC)
1510 WCLA TN NASHVILLE - 5/18 2100 50's & 60's mx. (WPT-DC)
1600 WPGW WI RONIN - 4/31 1345 Mox wx, CBO nx, sports wx. (DS-WI)

WCCO RADIO
Minneapolis-St. Paul
5000 Watt 1A Clear
GOOD NEIGHBOR TO THE NORTHWEST

SPECIAL "TAD" REPORT! (RX: Humpler 4MK-8, Coors Beverage, 817 kathers!)
1020 KZKO PA PITTSBURGH - 5/26 heard again, 2nd time this year, not as
loud as before!
1290 KETH AK ANCHORAGE - 5/26 loud on ST/TT 0420, many ID's.
1400 WBAK OR BANGOR - 5/26 loud w/WS, nasal sounding annc'r w/ad for
installing fiberglass insulation.
1490 KGOU OK CUMMINSTON - 5/26 loud on reg. 5th M/W f/c.
1530 UNID Tester w/ST 0315-0350, called sounds like KDY.
1530 UNID Tester w/ST 0315-0350, called sounds like KDY.
1530 UNID Tester w/ST 0315-0350, called sounds like 4DDY.
1580 WGAG NC BOWTVILLE - 5/26 loud w/Pizza Hut ad.

UNID 5/26 0330 somebody testing w/rr, giving ID's as 12-W-D.
Could this be the new WWWWWWWDD?

A TIP OF THE KAZOO TO:
RM-CT RON MUSCO, Windsare, CT.
WPT-DC WILLIAM P. TOWNSHEND, Washingtonetown, DC
SDM-MA STEPHEN D. MILLER, Boston, MA
WSW-CT HAROLD YOUNG, Kingsport, TN
DS-WI DANIEL SAMSON, Black River Falls, WI

CANADIAN POSTAL CODES

Because material for this issue was rather scarce, we've decided to
"fill" by reprinting some useful items which have appeared in DX News
but which are not carried as reprints. The information below was
submitted by Gordon Penderson, Jr.

Canadian postal codes should always follow the locality and province,
and should be placed on a separate line below them, as:

CJON Radio
P.O. Box 2000
ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland
CANADA
A1C 5Z2

Quidim also noted that the Canadian Post Office prefers that the location
be capitalized as above. Further, he indicated that it is unnecessary
capitalize as the Post Office does not require it. As it
happens, however, since most letters to Canada must start in the U.S.,
and the U.S. Postal Service recommends capitalizing the country if other
than the U.S., we'll go on doing it.

Canadian postal codes should always be written as above, with a space
between the two three-character groups. If you need the codes for any
localities, and cannot obtain them, you may write to:

CANADA PO BOX 2000
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND
A1C 5Z2

Postal code breakdown (Code prefixes):

A1 St. John's, Newfoundland
A2 Arklow, Newfoundland
B1 Algona, Newfoundland
C1 Conception Bay South, Newfoundland
E1 Conception Bay North, Newfoundland
H1 Conception Bay, Newfoundland
J1 Shoal Harbor, Newfoundland
K1 Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland
L1 Labrador City, Newfoundland
M1 Placentia, Newfoundland
N1 Gander, Newfoundland
P1 Greenspond, Newfoundland
R1 Nain, Newfoundland
S1 St. Anthony, Newfoundland
T1 St. John's, Newfoundland
U1 St. John's, Newfoundland
V1 St. John's, Newfoundland
W1 St. John's, Newfoundland
X1 St. John's, Newfoundland
Y1 St. John's, Newfoundland
Z1 St. John's, Newfoundland

GOOD NEIGHBOR TO THE NORTHWEST

© 2023 Good Neighbor To The Northwest
CANADIAN AUDIO NETWORKS - PART 2

BRIAN VERNON

The original Canadian Audio Network article appeared in DX News, Volume 46 #19. Other news and information concerning this subject has been released, so a news update is now in order.

BROADCAST NEWS VOUCE:

Since the last report, B.N.V. (by far the largest audio network in the country) has expanded its service. In February '79 it began its "Broadcast News Report", a 4 minute, 20 second news report fed from its Toronto studios to subscribing stations on the hour, 24 hours a day. Since stations are carrying this news on the hour only during the morning hours. If carried live, the news has no breaks for commercials or announcements. Apart from this it sounds very similar to the major American radio network news services. B.N.V. feeds 'Broadcast News Report' to all its subscribing stations but not many stations carry this on the air, though, any one of them can use it at any time, as such, B.N.V. has the only audio news service that is currently broadcasting B.N. Report. It may also be interesting to note that often more than one station in a given market subscribes to B.N. Report, so, the fact that because B.N.V. is using material from both the ABC (American Broadcasting Co.) and AFR (Associated Press Radio) it also feeds its stations programs such as Paul Harvey, an 'Economy of Sports' with Howard Cosell. In fact, the latter's pronunciation of ice hockey stars with names of French ancestry is a constant source of amusement across the country.

NEWSRADIO:

This service applied to CRTC for a network news service similar to Broadcast News Report, but, at the time of this writing, have received no word. However, the application has been approved or noticed by Newsworld. Features carried by Newsworld include: Comment by Steven Lewis; Comment by Tom Gould; Dialogue with Pierre Berton and Charles Templeton; three business reports, all sent daily; plus, 35 feature programs by Newsworld. Newsworld also sends three 13 minute shows each week for weekend use. Topline include news from Queens Park (Ontario stations only), interviews with people in the performing arts, authors or celebrities, and a series of "Topline Reports". Newsworld also carries news-cuts from CBS Radio; it does not carry the CBS Mystery Theatre, though it did at one time. Now, this show is carried by an independent group through distribution of tapes. In fact, the Newsworld is the only audio news service with a superior audio quality adds to its presentation. It can be heard on such stations as CPUN-1050, which by coincidence is a Newsradio subscriber.

Also neglected by Newsworld is NFL Football from CBS. This is carried by the CBS all news-radio network across the country.

STANDARD BROADCAST NEWS:

SBN does carry some Canadian commentary and extended programs produced by SBN and subscribing stations, but have been unable to get their titles, though material from NBC Radio is used extensively by SBN subscribers and WIN (Western Information Network) stations.

SELKIRK NEWS-SERVICE:

Selkirk News had its beginning 23 years ago when Sam Ross was sent from Vancouver to Ottawa in 1957 to establish the first news bureau (Ottawa News Bureau) to serve broadcasting, primarily the Taylor-Pearson-Carson radio stations. In 1970 Bill Hutton replaced Sam Ross and the service changed its name to Selkirk News.

Today and every morning Bill Hutton records his daily commentary which attains the federal government and its development to the average person. This run to approximately 2 minutes 45 seconds in length. Material is sent to Selkirk stations including a weekly 15 minute 'At Home with the Federal Government'. This commentary has been carried on radio stations in the capital. Primarily, though Selkirk's present service can best be described by quoting here from its own pamphlet 'Selkirk News Service-The Ottawa Connection'. 'Since all Selkirk stations subscribe to Selkirk News, Selkirk News can concentrate on the type of story that is more directly associated with the area served by one of the stations. Naturally, if a major story concerns one of these communities, it is covered by Selkirk News in even greater depth than a national news service provides.' Selkirk opened a bureau in Victoria, B.C. in 1978 primarily to service CKWX-1130-Vancouver, and the station's news features, 'On the Scene' and 'Behind the Scene'. In the future, Selkirk considers feeding non-Selkirk owned stations with news a "distinct possibility".

CHUM GROUP NEWS:

Originally called 'Canadian Contemporary News Network', CHUM Group News now provides exchange service for CHUM Group stations across the country, and includes: CFRA-580-Ontario; CHUM-1050-Ontario; CHUM-1290-Manitoba; CPUN-1410-B.C.; and CKPT-1420-Ontario.

CANADA NEWS-WIRE:

Operators a private teleprinter network for transmitting news releases directly to major news agencies, newspapers, broadcast networks, radio wire services, and cable networks. It also sends news releases in unedited form on behalf of more than 1,000 corporate and non-corporate clients. In effect, it is an electronic courier service.

CNW-BROADCAST SERVICES:

Is a division of Canada News Wire, and produces a variety of radio programs on behalf of many of the same clients referred to before under Canada News Wire. Programs are distributed to select stations without charge, with the current programs involving one of the following: 1) 'Drop in the Chase', these usually are short interviews of up to 5 minutes, suitable for use on news, public affairs or consumer information programs. 2) 'Packaged Feature Programs'; distributed to stations that agree, in advance, to broadcast the series over a 1, 12 or 52 week period. The series is national, and usually has a continuing theme, such as metric conversion, purchasing a home or tips for safe winter driving.

CKO ALL NEWS RADIO:

By the fall of 1979, CKO should have been a 12 station network according to the terms of its license, but seems stalled at its present size of 7. This includes stations in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, London, Toronto and Ottawa all on FM, and CKO-1970 in Montreal. The remaining 5 will be in Regina, Winnipeg, St. John-New Brunswick, Halifax and St. John-Newfoundland. Whether these last 5 stations will all be on FM is any one's guess, but a run down of some of the network's programs will be of interest if they are granted AM licenses.

Many of the CKO programs are being offered (through ads in trade magazines) for syndication, some of the following may find their way to small private stations already mentioned above. They include: Lynne Gordon (3 shows)--Weekly 12 minute consumer show; weekly 6 minute "The World of Entertainment"; Western Canada Round-Up--4 minutes from Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Business Commentary--5 times daily w/ Arthur Vaile. Travel Report--4 times daily, 26 minutes by Walter Kanitz. Book Shelf--11 minutes, aired 3 times on Saturday and Sunday. Commodities Report--Morning, noon and evening reports Monday through Thursday for 2 minutes by Bob teal. Horoscope--1 times daily, 10 minutes. NFL Football--26 minutes per game. Western Canada Round-Up--4 minutes from Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. CKO-NFL Profits--daily sports highlights; 12 minutes. Fax Tips--2 minutes w/ Arthur Vaile. Toronto Maple Leafs--NHL play by play. The months that follow, some of these features may change, but these were being offered through syndication in November 1979.

COMMENTS:

Articles have been written with regards to music formats. Hopefully, these 'Canadian Audio Network' articles have given greater depth into the subject to listen for as regards Canadian news and their services. If you ever wonder where a station got its news, then its contents may give you a clue, and, knowing what you hear always helps when reporting reception to stations.
PANAMA CITY A.M. SITUATION
(Not the Panamá City in Florida)

As of 8 June 1980
Róndal Z. Schatz

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prg.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>(call)</th>
<th>A.F. No.</th>
<th>FM/STI</th>
<th>Ego.</th>
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<tr>
<td>560</td>
<td>Radio Use</td>
<td>1730</td>
<td>92-97.5</td>
<td>0930-0400</td>
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<tr>
<td>610</td>
<td>HCPC Radio</td>
<td>1795</td>
<td>92-97.5</td>
<td>0930-0400</td>
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<tr>
<td>670</td>
<td>Radio Mía</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>89.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>670</td>
<td>Radio Hogar</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>94</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>760</td>
<td>La Exitosa</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>760</td>
<td>BOPO, The Voice of the Isthmus 3269, C3</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>EE/88 Relig.</td>
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<tr>
<td>790</td>
<td>RON Radio (Fort Clayton)</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>91.5</td>
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<td>790</td>
<td>Radio Mundial</td>
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<td>840</td>
<td>Radio Libertad (SRR)</td>
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<td>Radio Musical</td>
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<td>10577, 24</td>
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<td>900</td>
<td>La Voz de Pueblo</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>940</td>
<td>Radio Tevedos (TT2)</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>65000</td>
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<td>R-1380 below.</td>
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<td>Tiz-Rac</td>
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<td>Radio Mía</td>
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<td>Radio Juvenil</td>
<td>1210</td>
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<td>1310</td>
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<td>1410</td>
<td>93</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>La Voz de Panamá</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listed in 1980 city 'phone directory but not noted on any band:
HONZ, Onda Nuevo, Radio Cultura, Radio Balboa, HOQ & HOQ, & Radio Visión de Panamá. UniD's at 1360 and 96-5.11.

Onda Popular, nominal 965, noted only on FM at 98 (Chiltepe) and 94.5 (Panama). Skipped 0700-2140, off Sundays. Of WPTDA for additional Panamá FM stereo and TV info.

While the Canal Zone ceased to exist as of October 1979, the Southern Corridor Network should continue to exist until the completion of the phase-over in 2000.


"Native music" includes tamborito, tamborera, cubia, and décima guajira. The "tambor" type is a primitive sound with a rapid 4/4 beat and sung with a kind of yodel.

MUSINGS

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual members, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers or NBC.

ERNEST R. COOPER 5 ANTHONY STREET PROVINCETOWN, MASS. 02657
WILL WOLFF - O/C Camp New Hugo - Cabin 3 - Hayelev, Ontario - for 180

6/8/60

Hi. The above address is my Summer address. I'll be up North in Hayelev until July 28th, for a few weeks, then back in the States by August 8th. I'll write you more on the subject later...

One new logging, for $711 on 6/7: 1206-1234/24m, KEQO-810 all alone (except for station B/TV show. (Time, Texas, or talk) - REC 800: 1217-1353, unit tested. 1590, 1250-1299, something else on a 1250 AM. 1250 ST (VE 110 on fifth try), WCRD-11200 (V/G), WJDP-17800 (V), and WUH-19000 (V). I even bagged an Afghanistan varie on 76 after 66 hours and one Soviet takeover. Needless to say, I've been ple-}
As many DX'ers know, TV receivers are notorious QRM generators. The interference originates in the sweep stage of the set, causing harmonics of the picture tubes sweep pulse to radiate for perhaps hundreds of feet. Horizontal sync pulses were 15.750 khz in black-and-white service, and were modified slightly for color service to avoid heterodyne problems with the 3.579+5h color subcarrier signal in the set itself. The color service horizontal freq. is 15.734, 264 hz .044 hz; this frequency is rigidly maintained. At the same time, the vertical rate was changed from 60 to 59.94 hz for color broadcasting. Note: This applies only to the American NTSC standard of color TV with 525 line pictures. Other TV systems and other parts of the world with such as shown above and in 819 lines will not produce harmonics at these frequencies. Thus, DX'ers outside the U.S. ought to use this chart.

It is still possible that in a few areas, black-and-white transmissions may still be in use, although this is quite doubtful now. The way to check this is to monitor the frequencies 630 and 1260 khz. If the set causing your QRM is receiving a B-scan transmission, the horizontal sync of the set will be locked to 15.750 khz sync pulses, whose harmonics fall exactly on 630 and 1260 khz. Color transmissions will, on the other hand, cause harmonics to fall a few hundred hz on the low side, and will cause an audible heterodyne on these two frequencies. (See chart, 40th and 80th harmonic).

This is the most accurate listing of these frequencies to appear in the DX press. NRC's listing that appeared in DX News (16 Nov 1967) carried frequencies only to the nearest tent of a hz and contained some interpolation errors caused by final rounding. The figures in this chart are rounded to the nearest whole hertz. These numbers were obtained by multiplying 15.734264 by a calculator. Incidentally, the error caused by using 15.734 as the base figure amounts to about 0.3 hz per Mhz; not a very great amount.

For the benefit of Longwave, as well as Tropical Band DX'ers and Harmonic Chasers, who can use these calibration checkpoints outside the standard broadcast band, we've listed the entire rundown up to 4 khz or so. Despite the accuracy implied in this list, note that these pulses are not spectrally pure, but contain noise sidebands of 60, 120 and so on and so forth. Thus, the pulses may appear to be tens of hz wide, especially if heard at a 7 or louder.

Elimination of these harmonics, which is more desirable than hearing them, has been dealt with occasionally in past issues of DX News and more thoroughly in the Amateur Radio press. The DX'ers own set may have to be completely shielded around the sides and back and bottom with sheet aluminum (leave clearance around the picture tube, which carries 25,000 volts on the side shell, 1 inch), install leaded glass in front of the tubes in the antenna and power leads. Traps and filters are by far the most cost-effective approach. Lafayette Radio carries high-pass filters (for TVI elimination from CB radios etc.) which insert in the antenna lead. The Radio Amateurs Handbook has some help in this regard. (Available from A.R.R.L., Newington, CT 06111, $4.50). Severe cases will occur in apartments, from multiple sets in use, and its doubtful the DX'er could shield all sets. He may have to arrange with the set owner to have a service man do it, with the DX'er paying for parts and labor; in a large apartment that could run hundreds of dollars. Directional baffles, and taking the r.f. out of the set might be wiped out otherwise, to get a VHF signal generator and couple it into an antenna and sweep it across the TV channels, getting the viewer to switch off in disgust. This is dangerous, as it can put interference in the aviation bands around 120 khz, and the user is strictly on his own if he tries it. Do it more than twice, you'll likely have the fuzz after you... that's what "temporary cure" means. Apartment dwellers could find themselves kicked out for repeated use of this tactic. But it likely WILL work once... Best thing to do is move to a big Farm in Ohio, I'd like that myself.

This chart presented as a service for all DX'ers, to aid in identifying unID'd carriers, and for determining frequencies by using these as check points. This chart may be reproduced by any other DX club, providing NRC is credited, VALID ONLY IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA (925 line N.T.S.C. color television).
NRC AWARDS PROGRAM

The NRC is currently issuing four series of certificates to members. The first series is TOTAL VERIFICATIONS. This series is issued in steps of 500 varieties from different stations (i.e., 500, 1000, 1500, etc.). These certificates are issued on the honor system. When you reach or pass a 500 verie step, contact the NRC Awards Manager and a certificate will issue to you.

The second series is COUNTRIES VERIFIED and is issued in steps of 25 countries verified (25, 50, 75, etc.). For any of the country awards, please send the Awards Manager a list of the countries verified with details from a representative verie from each country. Call, location, frequency, and mode of operation (either date of reception or verification). The Awards Manager reserves the right to request a copy of any verie that might be questionable.

The third series is STATES VERIFIED. Awards are in the categories of 30, 40, 45 and all 50 states verified. Please send the Awards Manager a list of information from a representative verie from each state giving: State, call, location, frequency, and either date received or date verified.

The last series is CANADIAN PROVINCES VERIFIED. These awards are issued from 6 provinces verified (Territory substitution allowed). 9 provinces verified (Territory substitution allowed) and for 10 provinces verified (no substitutions allowed, all 10 provinces must be verified). Note that only verifies after April 1st and for this year this is the date of joining Canada as a province. Send the Awards Manager representative info from a verie: Call, province, location, frequency and date of receipt.

Applications for awards go to: Norm Maguire, Awards Manager 6105 Del Campo Place NE Albuquerque, NM 87109

!! VISIT THE CITY OF THE ANGELS !!
From the time I began DXing and SWLing in the late '60s, I have longed for two things (actually three, but let's stick to the hobby), a good receiver and a good antenna. Obtaining the former is a simple matter of eating peanut butter sandwiches and drinking water for a few years (like since the late '60s), then suddenly all the money saved is carefully and lovingly paid out for the "ultimate" receiver! So far, that's half the story.

The other half of the story is the antenna. I'm sure many of us would give up our first shortwave QSL (KJ71, no doubt) in order to have a really efficient antenna system. However, even if you give up an entire year's collection of KJ71 QSLs, there's little chance you're going to realize that dream antenna system if you live in "the city." Still, there is hope!

Down at Radio West, where I work part time, Grant Manning and I discussed the problem of having a good receiver and little in the way of an antenna system. At the time, I was virtually "living in a trashcan in downtown San Diego" and, DX-wise, a minute of it. I had about 75 feet of wire in the air, but when it came to the 60 mb and 90 mb, my only loggings were from my wife's micro-wave oven and the neighbor's swimming pool heater!! And the worst part was neither would QSL! Chronic depression was a reality.

After explaining my situation to Grant, he suggested I try out a prototype antenna which Radio West was working on. A description of the antenna in the Radio West catalog begins: "This antenna consists of three parts: A three foot telescoping whip antenna with an FRG-7000 receiver; a PVC post-amplifier located at the receiver, containing a high-power RF transformer for low intermodulation distortion and a RF gain control to prevent overloads and a small AC power adapter."

The Active Antenna can be battery powered for portable or field use. While NO antenna is better than another under all conditions, with all receivers, on all frequencies, the KRS All-Band 'Active' Antenna is, in general, equal to a 100 foot longwire over the 200 kHz to 50 MHz frequencies. Supplied with three feet of shielded cable, phone jack to stripped and tinned leads for connection to the receiver.

I used the antenna at my home in San Diego where the only competition I could make was with the 75 feet of wire and my three receivers: SPR-4, FRG-7, and FRG-7000. There was, actually, no competition; the "active" antenna out-performed my wire antenna on all bands. However, I did notice some over-loading of the front-end in the medium-wave spectrum, but Grant advises this problem with the antenna I tested has been corrected in the production units now available.

Not satisfied with one test, I asked Grant if I could try out the 'active' antenna at Radio West (located in a fairly QRM-free environment) along with 200 foot + longwire and KS Preamplifier. Grant agreed. So, on one dark and cold night (all night!) amid the local raccoons fighting outside, I proceeded to DX...er, test the antenna systems. The receivers in use were the FRG-7, FRG-7000, and the new Kenwood R-1000 (a nice receiver).

For reference purposes, Radio West is located in Escondido, California, which is about 30 miles/50 kilometers northeast of San Diego. Of the three receivers used, there did not seem to be greater sensitivity of one unit over the other, though the R-1000 was easier to tune owing to the "automatic" preselector built in. Following is a brief list of the stations heard and their respective 's-meter' readings. Although of questionable value, I'm using the "s-meter" readings simply as a point of reference in relation to the antenna type used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency (kHz)</th>
<th>Receiver</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>200' LW</th>
<th>Preamplifier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3250 - SABC</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9+30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3400 - R. Cultural</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9+35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3800 - R. Zaracay</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9+30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3400 - NBO N. Espejo</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9+20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>245 - NBS &quot;NM&quot; at San Diego Internat.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>233 - NBS &quot;LG&quot; at Long Beach Airport</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>680 - KNBR in San Francisco</td>
<td>9+30</td>
<td>9+30</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>830 - WCCO in Minneapolis/St. Paul</td>
<td>9+10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>9+20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>890 - WLS in Chicago</td>
<td>9+10</td>
<td>9+20</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A point of clarification: the preamplifier for the longwire does not tune below 2 MHz, no comparison is possible for the medium-wave band.

Quite possibly, the KRS All-Band "Active" Antenna will prove to be what many apartment and mobile home residents have been looking for: an antenna which won't bring down the wrath of the management! And even if you have the ability to put up an antenna, the KRS "Active" would seem to warrant consideration.

The price for the KRS "Active" Antenna, as listed in the Radio West catalog is $115.00 including postage. A catalog may be obtained from Radio West, 3417 Purser Road, Escondido, CA 92025.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

After I mailed this article to several clubs, I was confronted on the questionable value of the review; I neglected the area above 5 MHz.

Actually, I did not neglect that area. I was trying to ignore it. I did listen to the frequencies above 5 MHz and noted numerous signals in passing. It was observed that the KRS "Active" would at least equal to if not slightly better at times when tuning these higher frequencies. However, the longwire with the preselector in circuit did produce slightly better signals.

I didn't concentrate on 5 MHz owing to the high powered stations there. There was no problem with loading. However, how difficult it is to hear a 500 kw station on a relatively modest antenna (e.g., telescoping whip)? For a SWL only, the KRS "Active", in my opinion, would be over-kill, though I am sure it would help improve the signals of some of the weaker international broadcasters.

As my main area of interest is below 5 MHz, I mainly concentrated on the results I obtained. However, in all honesty/fairness, I should have included results on reception of the higher bands. Thus, I readily admit my results were biased and of questionable value to listeners of the station above 5 MHz.

As further reference concerning the KRS "Active", I invite those interested to read the April issue of FRENDX in which Jerry Lineback gives a very well presented review of this antenna.

A point which I neglected to mention in my review was simply not to feed the signal from the "active" through a preamplifier into the receiver. The results are, from my experience, not good.

Mike Hardester, 574 Deer Springs Road, San Marcos, CA 92069,
This graph shows the daily variations in $A_p$, the Fredericksburg (VA) index of geomagnetic activity in the earth’s magnetic field. High values (above 20) indicate that medium wave signals in upper latitude paths will likely be absorbed, thus resulting in “sustained conditions”, with signals from the South and from local stations predominating due to this absorption of the more northerly signals. Low values over a period of time indicate a likelihood of more receptions on the higher latitude paths – more, and more northerly, TA’s and TP’s. Several days of low values following higher ones are needed for conditions to return to “normal”, due to residual absorption. Long periods of extremely low values (6 or less) are necessary to raise the possibility of good high-latitude conditions throughout the entire MW band, although this is not the only requirement. For additional information on the use of the $A_p$ and related indices as a DX tool, consult the NRC Reprints List for relevant articles. –RJE
The 1980 National Radio Club Convention will be held over Labor Day weekend (August 28, 29, 30, 31 and Sept. 1) at the Hacienda Hotel near Los Angeles Airport. The hotel is approximately 5 miles from the airport, which is close enough to have courtesy limousine service but far enough to have affordable rates. In addition to the usual hotel offerings, the hotel is located 13 miles from the ocean.

This is the first West Coast convention in nearly a decade and the Los Angeles location is within easy driving and flying distance of the 10 Western states. Here you'll have an opportunity to meet a good number of Eastern DXers. East coasters will have a chance to meet the top DXers on the West Coast and to take a really great vacation. The last West Coast convention was a success and because the club has grown tremendously since then, we expect to have an even greater turn out.

HOW TO GET THERE

By Air: Los Angeles International Airport is served by virtually every large carrier, including Pan Am, TWA, Western, Delta, Northwest Orient, and United. Call the hotel from the airport for courtesy limousine at 322-1212.

By car: The hotel is located to the west of the San Diego (I-405) freeway. Take the Imperial Highway exit towards the west to Sepulveda Blvd., and then turn left. In about 3 blocks, the hotel will be on the right side. There is a large parking lot just before the motel free guest parking.

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

We have a great number of activities planned for the convention. In addition to the usual station tours, we have some unusual ones planned such as tours of Beverly Hills, the movie star city, and the Collins mechanical filter plant. While LA is not lacking in places to tour, many are available only on weekdays. This is why the convention is starting on Thursday, so come early!

The Banquet will be held at the hotel on Saturday night at 6 p.m. and will be followed by the annual business meeting.

Of course, the yearly rip-roaring auction will be held at the hotel after the business meeting, so send all your auction items to John Clements.

On Sunday will be the technical sessions. Grant Manning will host a session on loop antennas and Randy Sever will speak on propagation.

Your hosts this year are Greg Hardison (213) 993-0716 and H. John Clements (213) 893-4778 (after 10-11 p.m. on weekdays). We are looking forward to showing you one of the best conventions ever.

BE THERE – JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME

NRC CONVENTION REGISTRATION

MAIL TO: H. John Clements, 9010 Tobias, #258, Panorama City, CA 91402

Please complete all items and mail as soon as possible as it will make things easier for the Convention Committee if we have an indication of the number of persons to expect.

Name_________________________ Phone (______)_________________________

Address________________________ State/Province________________________

City________________________ ZIP/Postal Code________________________

The registration fee is $25, which includes the banquet. The fee may be paid in advance or at the door.

ACCOMMODATIONS DESIRED

_________ None (I will not be staying at the hotel)

_________ 1-person - $32/night, main building, $37/night in new South Tower

_________ 2-persons - $36/night, main building, $41/night in new South Tower.

I will be arriving on (date/time)_________________________

I will be departing on (date/time)_________________________

Mode of transportation____________________________________

It is extremely important that you reserve motel rooms as soon as possible because the airport area is very busy, especially around holidays. The room rates we have are 40% less than those of other nearby hotels, so register early. It is best to reserve rooms directly with the hotel through their toll-free numbers:

(800) 451-5900, In California call (800) 262-1324.

When making reservations you must mention NRC to get the special rates.

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